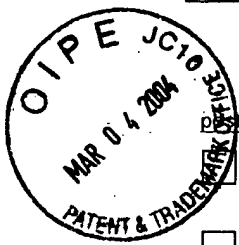


TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Case No. 10000/209
Serial No. 10/719,764	Filing Date November 21, 2003	Examiner TBA	Group Art Unit TBA
Inventor(s) David M. Hardin et al.			
Title of Invention LOOP TIP WIRE GUIDE			



TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is Transmittal Letter in duplicate; Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449;
postcard.

Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.

- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☐ Petition for a _____ month extension of time.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity		or	Other Than Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee		Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$9 =			x \$18 =	
Indep.		Minus			x 43 =			x \$86 =	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+ \$145 =			+ \$290 =	
					Total add'l fee	\$		Total add'l fee	\$

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$_____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Matos Michael
 Registration No. 47,793
 Attorney for Applicant
 Customer No. 00757 - Brinks Hofer Gilson Lione

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
 P.O. BOX 10395
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
 (312) 321-4200

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:
 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 2, 2004.

Date: 3/2/04

Signature:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 4500, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

March 2, 2004

Date of Deposit

Carmen Matos Michael

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature

March 2, 2004

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 10000/209

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

David M. Hardin et al.

Serial No.: 10/719,764

Filing Date: November 21, 2003

For: LOOP TIP WIRE GUIDE

Examiner:

Group Art Unit No.:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

Patent No.	Date	Name
4,281,660	8/4/81	Fujiwara
5,643,281	7/1/97	Suhocki et al.
5,904,648	5/18/99	Arndt et al.
6,056,743	5/2/00	Ellis et al.
6,102,918	8/15/00	Kerr
6,277,139 B1	8/21/01	Levinson et al.
6,371,970 B1	4/16/02	Khosravi et al.
6,379,319 B1	4/30/02	Garibotto et al.
US 2002/0016604 A1	2/7/02	Boock et al.
US 2002/0032455 A1	3/14/02	Boock et al.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

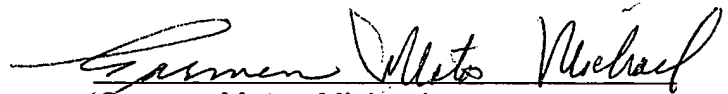
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), Applicant(s) hereby certify that each item of the information disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more

than three months prior to filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carmen Matos Michael", written over a horizontal line.

Carmen Matos Michael
Registration No. 47,793
Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610
(312) 321-4200



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/719,764	CASE NO. 10000/209
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE November 21, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): David M. Hardin et al.	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4,281,660	8/4/81	Fujiwara		
	A2	5,643,281	7/1/97	Suhocki et al.		
	A3	5,904,648	5/18/99	Arndt et al.		
	A4	6,056,743	5/2/00	Ellis et al.		
.	A5	6,102,918	8/15/00	Kerr		
	A6	6,277,139 B1	8/21/01	Levinson et al.		
.	A7	6,371,970 B1	4/16/02	Khosravi et al.		
	A8	6,379,319 B1	4/30/02	Garibotto et al.		
	A9	US 2002/0016604 A1	2/7/02	Boock et al.		
	A10	US 2002/0032455 A1	3/14/02	Boock et al.		
	A11					
	A12					
	A13					

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A14					
	A15					
	A16					
	A17					
	A18					

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER INITIAL		
.	A19	
	A20	
	A21	
	A22	
	A23	
	A24	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.